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Attorneys for Defendant,  
MUHLHAUSER STEEL, INC.

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

THE TRAVELERS INDEMNITY  
COMPANY OF CONNECTICUT, a  
Connecticut Corporation,

Plaintiff,

v.

MULHAUSER STEEL, INC., a  
California Corporation; ANGELES  
CONTRACTOR, INC., a California  
Corporation, and DOES 1 through 10,  
inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No. 8:24-cv-01913-FMO-ADS

**DECLARATION OF PAUL C.  
HIRST IN SUPPORT OF MOTION  
TO STAY**

Hearing Date: February 27, 2025  
Hearing Time: 10:00 a.m.  
Courtroom 6D

Filed concurrently with:

1. *Notice of Motion and Motion;*
2. *Memorandum of Points & Authorities;*
3. *Request for Judicial Notice; and*
4. *[Proposed] Order.*

1 I, Paul C. Hirst, declare:

2 1. I am an attorney duly licensed to practice law before all courts of the State  
3 of California. I am a partner with the law firm of McLeod Law Group, A.P.C.  
4 (“MLG”), counsel of record for defendant Muhlhauser Steel, Inc. (“Muhlhauser”) in the  
5 above-entitled action. I make this declaration in support of Muhlhauser’s motion to  
6 stay this insurance coverage action (“Coverage Action”) until resolution of the  
7 underlying third-party claims asserted against it in the lawsuit styled *Angeles*  
8 *Contractor, Inc. v. Muhlhauser Steel, Inc., et al.*, pending in Orange County Superior  
9 Court, case no. 30-2021-01211990-CU-BC-CJC (“Underlying Action”). I have  
10 personal knowledge of the matters set forth herein and if called upon to testify I could  
11 and would competently do so, except as to those matters stated on information and  
12 belief and, as to those matters, I believe them to be true.

13 2. On October 7, 2024, I sent an email to counsel for plaintiff The Travelers  
14 Indemnity Company of Connecticut (“Travelers), Lindsee Falcone, Esq., indicating that  
15 Muhlhauser was contemplating filing a motion to stay this Coverage Action pending  
16 resolution of the Underlying Action, and requesting a phone call to meet and confer  
17 about the contemplated motion pursuant to L.R. 7-3. Ms. Falcone and I participated in  
18 the meet and confer call on October 8, during which we discussed the substance of the  
19 contemplated motion to stay and were not able to come to any potential resolution.

20 3. On October 11, 2024, ACI filed its motion to dismiss this Coverage Action  
21 (Document No. 12), and the Court denied ACI’s motion on January 8, 2025 (Document  
22 No. 27).

23 4. On January 10, 2025, I sent another email to Ms. Falcone seeking to  
24 confirm that per our October 8 meet and confer call, the parties were at an impasse on  
25 the substance of Muhlhauser’s contemplated motion to stay and that no further meet  
26 and confer would be warranted. I invited Ms. Falcone to participate in another meet  
27 and confer call if she believed anything had changed since our October 8 meet and  
28 confer. Ms. Falcone responded to me via email on January 10, confirming that we had

1 completed a significant meet and confer and ended at an impasse. A true and correct  
2 copy of the October 7, 2024 through January 10, 2025 email exchange between me and  
3 Ms. Falcone is attached hereto as Exhibit C.

4 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United State of America  
5 that the foregoing is true and correct.

6 Executed at Castle Rock, Colorado, on January 22, 2025.

7  
8 /s/ Paul C. Hirst

9 Paul C. Hirst, Esq.  
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C	Email exchange between counsel dated October 7, 2024 through January 10, 2025.	1

# EXHIBIT C

**From:** Lindsee Falcone lfalcone@aguileragroup.com  
**Subject:** Re: Travelers v. Muhlhauser Steel  
**Date:** January 10, 2025 at 4:27 PM  
**To:** Paul Hirst pchirst@mcleodlawgroup.com  
**Cc:** John McLeod jmcleod@mcleodlawgroup.com, Analise Silva asilva@mcleodlawgroup.com, Rene Daley rdaley@aguileragroup.com, Peter Schulz pjs@sbrlawsd.com, Jon Brick jsb@sbrlawsd.com

Hi Paul,

I agree, we completed a significant meet and confer and ended at an impasse.

Best,  
Lindsee

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone  
Get [Outlook for Android](#)

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**From:** Paul Hirst <pchirst@mcleodlawgroup.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 10, 2025 6:05:03 PM  
**To:** Lindsee Falcone <lfalcone@aguileragroup.com>  
**Cc:** John McLeod <jmcleod@mcleodlawgroup.com>; Analise Silva <asilva@mcleodlawgroup.com>; Rene Daley <rdaley@aguileragroup.com>; Peter Schulz <pjs@sbrlawsd.com>; Jon Brick <jsb@sbrlawsd.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Travelers v. Muhlhauser Steel

Lindsee,

Hope all is well and that you and your family enjoyed the holidays.

Back on October 8, prior to ACI filing its motion to dismiss, we had a meet and confer call regarding Muhlhauser's contemplated motion to stay. We discussed the substance of the motion and were not able to come to any potential resolution. I believe we agreed that we were at an impasse on the substance of the stay motion and no further meet and confer would be warranted. Would you please respond to this email and confirm the same?

If you believe anything has changed since then or would like to have a further meet and confer, please let me know your availability for such a call early next week. Assuming we are at an impasse, we would like to file the motion with our responsive pleading currently due on January 22. So, we would need to have the call by Wednesday, January 15, if at all possible.

Look forward to hearing from you.

Thanks,

Paul

Paul C. Hirst, Esq.



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On Oct 7, 2024, at 2:16 PM, Lindsee Falcone <lfalcone@aguileragroup.com> wrote:

You can call my cell directly. 978-660-5814

Thanks.

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone  
Get [Outlook for Android](#)

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**From:** Paul Hirst <pchirst@mcleodlawgroup.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 7, 2024 4:05:00 PM

**Sent:** Monday, October 7, 2024 4:05:26 PM  
**To:** Lindsee Falcone <lfalcone@aguileragroup.com>  
**Cc:** Paul Hirst <pchirst@mcleodlawgroup.com>; John McLeod <jmcleod@mcleodlawgroup.com>; Analise Silva <asilva@mcleodlawgroup.com>; Rene Daley <rdaley@aguileragroup.com>; Eric Aguilera <eaguilera@aguileragroup.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Travelers v. Muhlhauser Steel

That works for me. What number should I call you at?

Paul C. Hirst, Esq.



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On Oct 7, 2024, at 2:00 PM, Lindsee Falcone <lfalcone@aguileragroup.com> wrote:

Hi Paul,

I can discuss tomorrow. How about 11am?

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone  
Get [Outlook for Android](#)

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**From:** Paul Hirst <pchirst@mcleodlawgroup.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 7, 2024 1:26:31 PM  
**To:** Lindsee Falcone <lfalcone@aguileragroup.com>  
**Cc:** John McLeod <jmcleod@mcleodlawgroup.com>; Analise Silva <asilva@mcleodlawgroup.com>; Rene Daley <rdaley@aguileragroup.com>; Eric Aguilera <eaguilera@aguileragroup.com>  
**Subject:** Travelers v. Muhlhauser Steel

Lindsee,

We are contemplating filing a motion to stay this action pending resolution of the underlying case. Prior to bringing the motion, we are required to meet and confer pursuant to Local Rule 7-3. Do you have time later today or tomorrow to discuss?

Paul

Paul C. Hirst, Esq.

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